

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are now pending in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claim 8 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 2 and 5 have been amended herein.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claim 8 recites allowable subject matter. This claim was objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Without conceding the propriety of these rejection, Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable Claim 8. Claim 1 has been further amended by changing the term “carriage circuit board” to simply --circuit board-- and by eliminating the recitation that the pressurized pin is formed of metal. Nevertheless, Claim 1 is still believed to be allowable over the citations of record. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection are respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2 and 4-7.

This Amendment After Final Rejection does not raise significant new issues, is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. This Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicant earnestly believed that the prior Amendment

placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objection and rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Williamson", written over a horizontal line.

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